

REMARKS

Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-19 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the Amendments and Remarks as set forth below.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b, e) as being anticipated by Houdek (U. S. Patent No. 6,406,257). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner states that the Houdek reference shows a heat-dissipating module 101, including a fan 202 with a first engaging member in the form of the edge of flange 202, securing devices 212 and 216 having a second engagement member 215, and a terminal 211 so that the heat-dissipating module will be electrically connected to the system through the terminal. Applicants submit that claim 1 is not anticipated by this reference.

Claim 1 describes a heat-dissipating module having a heat-dissipating device, a securing device and a terminal. The heat-dissipating device has a frame with a first engaging member. The casing 202 of the reference does not have a frame. Further, Applicants submit that the edge of the casing does not constitute a first engaging member. Further, the claim states that the securing device is on one side of the heat-dissipating device to prevent the securing device from protruding out of the frame of the heat-dissipating device. This concept is not seen in any fashion in the reference. In fact, if the clips 215 are considered to be a securing device, it appears that these are always outside of the edge of the casing 202 and, thus, cannot be prevented from protruding. Further, if the entire finger guard assembly 212 is considered to be the securing

device, it clearly must protrude out from the frame since it covers the entire back of the fan. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2-10 depend from claim 1 and, as such, are also considered to be allowable. In addition, these claims recite other features of the invention. For example, claim 7 further describes that the securing device has a receptacle for embedding the terminal so that the terminal does not protrude from the frame. This is not seen in the reference either.

Claim 19 describes a similar module where the heat-dissipating device has an outer frame and the terminal is mounted on one side of the outer frame but not protruded out of the heat-dissipating device. It is likewise not seen in the reference, since connector 210 is not mounted on the outer frame and protrudes away from the fan in order to be connected to mating panel connector 218. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 19 is likewise allowable.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 8-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Houdek. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 8-10 depend from allowable claim 1 and, as such, are also considered to be allowable. Thus, even if it would be obvious to include holes and flanges, as indicated in claims 8-10, these claims would still be allowable based on their dependency from claim 1.

Claim 11 is an independent claim similar to claims 1 and 19. Claim 11 describes the securing device as having holes for fixing the securing device to the heat-dissipating device. This is not seen in the reference. Also, claim 11 describes a terminal, which is embedded in the securing device to prevent the terminal from protruding out of the heat-dissipating device. This

concept is not seen or suggested in any manner by the reference. Accordingly, claim 11 is likewise allowable.

Claims 12-18 depend from claim 11 and, as such, are also considered to be allowable. In addition, these claims recite additional features of the invention. In particular, claims 16-18 described flanges, ears and holes for mounting the various elements. Accordingly, these claims are considered to be additionally allowable.

Conclusion

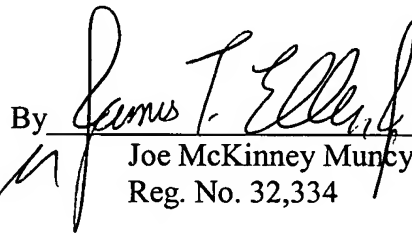
In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the claims clearly distinguish over the patent relied on by the Examiner. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of all of the claims are respectfully requested.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned, at the telephone number of (703) 205-8000, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

By  #39,538
Joe McKinney Muncy
Reg. No. 32,334

KM/RFG/slb

P.O. Box 747
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747
(703) 205-8000